

Seasonal Silver

Fall
1987



Volume 3 Number 2

The purpose
of this magazine/newsletter
is to express a love of Nature
and a basically Humanitarian point of view
**that whatever our beliefs, gender, color, sexual preference--
or whatever makes us unique individual human beings**
we CAN get along with and love each other.
And we CAN love and respect Her: our Mother, the Earth.

This is a seasonal/quarterly magazine/newsletter.
Staff includes Donna Lyon Rhose, Aridiana, Geoffrey Pfaff,
Miguel, Jaime Redwing, Gil Wyndel, Crystal Drapun and Arion.

With Special Thanks to Gary.

Editorial

The Reflective Woods

There is no such thing as "lost knowledge." Because most of us are caught up with the material, we make the mistake of thinking if it's not written or known on this level, it is invariably "lost." We also tend to make the mistake that if it's not lost (but esoteric) of relying too heavily on outside sources (teachers, books, etc.) instead of trying to find these things within. Because of illusion the material world presents, some come to feel there is no esoteric knowledge to be achieved from teachers or themselves. "Despair all hope, all ye who enter."

The astral is an odd place and not much spoken of in the Pagan community. There is only one magazine I know that deals directly with the astral--ANIMA from the United Kingdom--and, though I enjoy the magazine immensely, it is sometimes too personally based (as if the astral is all a personal dream world). It is fine to explore one's subconscious (in fact, one does need to start there), but there are also universal/nonpersonal things to be gained from the astral. The basic astral is almost like Grand Central Station--the doorways into variant levels of existence are gained from there.

Of course, not everyone is acquainted with the astral. Meditation is effective in unlocking the other worlds--in fact, it is often much safer for you are both in and out of the astral when in meditation and will not get the full force of the various astral influences/vibrations/beings if anything untoward should occur. It is through these other worlds that much "inner" information can be gained--information that has not been seen in the material, perhaps for centuries. It takes time, work, and true unquenchable desire to know to gather this "Within" knowledge. Though some of the information cannot be obtained or understood unless experienced on the personal level--some can be conveyed, taught, and shared. But there's much, much work to do and it has to be done by us--by each individual. For instance: if we have had past lives, much can be gained by regression and/or astrally "pulling the Akashic records"--"checking out your Book of Life"--by finding out what we once knew, what we once did, how we once celebrated and formed our rituals--and WHY. Much 'can' be known--but many tend to drift into reliance on external resources leading to a philosophy best stated as, "Well... perhaps it was



this way, perhaps it was that way. Maybe yes, maybe no." It doesn't have to be maybe--but it takes work and some people will remember this piece and others will remember that piece; and we really need to start trying to find a way to communicate with each other so that we may put the pieces together and end up with a Completed Picture rather than the Eternal Puzzle.

Unless they are too personal, talk about your astral/meditative experiences. The astral is a very 'real' world. Its effect is potent in the material world. Everytime you do a ritual, it creates something on the astral that can easily take on an identity of its own. Be aware of what you do--dabbling, unconcern, carelessness, no love, no trust--creates sad, deformed monsters on the astral. Monsters that can become quite dangerous, feeding on you (and attacking other people). I have met them often in the astral and it makes me angry for it shows me that often people simply do not believe in what they do--that rituals and the occult are merely "fun" and not dead-serious reality. Not that rituals cannot be enjoyable, light-hearted with much laughter--just that it needs to be realized how serious the core of it is. Once established, the sacred space penetrates throughout the astral realms. It does folks--no matter how sloppy our efforts; and through this article I am trying to exort and excite an awareness of how real and how close the other Worlds are. Our minds exist in the other realm, we only 'see' the material through borrowed eyes. The material world is not an illusion as to whether it exists or not--it exists. But it dupes us into blindness; by its very structure it tries to persuade us that there is nothing more. Pagans are sometimes duped to believe the Mother's Life depends solely on this level. She is All levels--it is our believing these levels are split which is not true. I gaze outside into the trees and am so aware of all the levels interacting simultaneously it almost frightens me--for it is energy, energy, energy that permeates All--on All levels, at all times.

Use the energy well that it be a blessing and not a curse--a healing and not an illness.

From the Foothills of Georgia,

Gonna Lyon Thorne

Special Contributions this Issue:

Albion, GA - pgs 4 & 5; Bambi, FL - Cover; Paul Beyerl, MN - pg 10; Scott Fray, MI - pg 13; Don Lewis, IL - pg 20; Marah, NH - pg 6; Sheryl Nelms, AZ - pg 11; Pat Nicholas, WA - pg 12; Lew Paxton Price, CA - pg 19; Gypsy Star, MD - pg 9; Steven P., VT - pg 23; Karen Weed, MO - pg 12; White Deer Woman, FL - pg 20

Letters to the Editors*

THE OLD WAYS AND THE NEW By Albion, 1985

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I've spent several years researching the Craft and how it's changed in modern times. I claim no Hereditary pagan roots nor am I a spokesman for the Traditional or Hereditary Craft. I offer this article (as an insight into some of their Ways) as one who feels a dialogue between the Old and New Ways of Craft is in order. I'm indebted to many witches who've answered my questions especially "L," Dal, and "Myrddin." Modern Witches/Pagans can learn much from "the Old Ones." Comments/questions are welcome. Please write to me: co/2729 Orion Dr., Decatur Ga, 30033

There are those in the Craft who would say spending time on historical investigation--researching the Craft of the Wise--is not pertinent to our spiritual growth as witches. I believe knowledge is growth; in these days of massive change in the Craft/Pagan world, looking into the "roots" of Modern Witchcraft will not detract from our spiritual growth but will add to it. After all, isn't it easier to know where you're going, if you know something of where you've come from?

Hereditary One who received his/her Craft lineage thru family. Traditional (has a different meaning in Britain than North America) One who has been initiated in a group, predating the formation of "Gardnerian" covens in 1940s, that practices the Old Ways (possibly hereditary in origin) or a group which originally began with family(ies) practising the same (or similar) old rites/rituals and continued to present as the tradition passed outside the group by initiation. Some witches say Gardnerian/Alexanderian witches trace their lineage back to Traditional Craft thru 'Old' George Pickingill or Dorothy Clutterbuck. In my opinion George Pickingill, a solitary (lived in Canewdon, England, 1800s), kept to himself sharing nothing. History shows Pickingill was on the "Left Hand Path" using fear/magical blackmail as his main forms of "magic." 'Old' George's only historically recorded helpers were his familiars or, as his frightened fellow villagers called them, his magical "imps." Dorothy ("Daffo") Clutterbuck was HP of a New Forest group--a true old, Traditional group, Gerald Gardner initiated into. I've been told "Old Gerald" (some of his friends/associates jokingly called him--GBB--'Great Blabber Guts') got no further in the New Forest group than the Priesthood or what might be equivalent to the Modern first degree. It is said that he had little "inner" knowledge of the true Old Ways. He is said to have left early in his training to start his tradition combining the Oral from New Forest (fragmentary at best) with Ceremonial Aleister Crowley and Doreen Valiente [Ed: an Hereditary] helped him make into a "workable" whole. (Many Hereditary/Traditionals in Britain in the 1940s had oral versions of the Craft--persecution had made dangerous any kind of physical "evidence" in a witch's possession; laws against Witchcraft were not repealed in Britain til 1951.

Oral Tradition continues in some Hereditary covens/groups today.) "The Old Ways." Genuine pagan survivals kept alive over long periods time in pagan families/traditions. Examples: "the Green Man"/"Lord of the Green Leaves" whose carved foliate face(s) can be found in old churches in Britain. Many builders of the churches were Pagan; they carved their Gods on "the Houses of Worship" they were forced to attend [Ed: also in France, Spain, Italy, Portugal]; this is an outer form--for many Hereditary/Traditionals it had an inner symbology (the Ritual Year). All groups worshipping in the Old Ways are not alike. Some are solely Goddess-oriented worshipping the Lady in Her three aspects; others worship the Horned One--Goddess in "second place;" others worship God/dess as polarities, God prominent in winter/Goddess--summer. Differences in these Paths probably arose from various invaders to Britain and the numerous mythological cycles' being incorporated into the Old Ways.

The Hereditary/Traditionals in Britain seem similar in their spiritual view(s) of Goddess/Horned God being within rather than outside self. The British Hereditary/Traditionals are varied in their Workings: some are spontaneous/inspirational keeping things simple while others are formal/ceremonial--have "handed down" rites/rituals that have changed little over hundreds of years. Most Hereditary/Traditionals prefer to work in natural settings, at ancient sites (stone circle, standing stone, river) if possible. Often group(s) psychically work with "The Guardian" (deva/spirit) of the site. Also shared by many Hereditary/Traditionals is a "shamanic" outlook. Working with elemental forces and the spirit world ("Other World," as the Celts called it) is still actively engaged in by the old groups; some also work with "spirit guides," "spirit helpers" "familiar spirits," and/or animals that could be considered "totems." These kinds of Workings seem to have been neglected by most modern British and American witches. Those of the Old Faith believed this world and the other existed very close--if not side-by-side. One with training/skill could go from one world to the other [Ed: sometimes called: Walking Between the Worlds]. The "magic circle" is "The Space Between the Worlds" an entrance into the "Other World." The Craft, Traditional, Hereditary, Modern, can teach us how to live in this world and travel to "the other world." Many of Hereditary/Traditionals in Britain have been ultra-secretive for hundreds of years; they survived to the present by Trust, Love of the Gods within, and believing in their own Divine Intuition. As one Traditional Witch said to me,

"The Craft is ancient. From the first time a human gazed at the Moon in wonder; from the first time a man looked on a woman and saw the Goddess, there has been the Craft. From the first primaeval spark of awareness, there has been the Craft."

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An Open Letter to Wiccans and Pagans

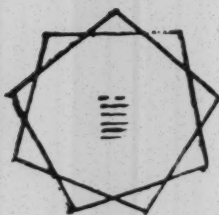
July, 1987

Greetings to all:

Not all news is bad news. The company I work for recently announced that we would be working through the weekend and that the Saturday would be a "scheduled" work day. No one would be excused and any absenteeism would result in a written warning and go against our record. It so happened that this weekend was June 20-21--Summer Solstice! I was devastated. We had big plans for the weekend, as our covenstead is some distance out of town and it required travel time, some errands in town beforehand, etc. I went to my supervisor and explained that it was a religious holiday for us and I would like to be excused. He said he would think about it, but when he got back to me later in the day, the answer was no! In the meantime, I spoke to the representative in the Human Resources Department and explained my situation. She said she would see what she could do. The following day (Thursday) she told me that she had talked to the plan manager and he was going to speak to my supervisor. To make a long story tolerable, I was eventually told that I could have the weekend off and that even though I was counted as absent from work, I would not get a warning of any kind.

It's not a major victory, but it's a start. Maybe it will catch on in other places.

Blessed Be,
Marah in New Hampshire



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Dear Seasonal Silver,

Hi. I am writing to possibly obtain some information--I play music in a duo called GRACE. We are very interested in healing music and peace in music. We try to incorporate this in our music and do a lot of experimentation with different musicians in our area and would like to do a lot more with people in other areas. Music is becoming our "calling" and is something I feel we have to do for ourselves as well as others. We are presently planning a 4-month tour and would like to play in Georgia--any place where people would like to come and participate. If you could help us by hooking us up with people who may be interested in or have previous experience in setting performances up, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you very much. Peace, Roan, GRACE, 112 Lathrop Street, Madison, WI, 53705.

Dear Roan,

I am printing your letter with the hopes that someone who may be able to help you will read it. Many blessings in your work.

Donna Lyon Rhose

ATTENTION PLEASE

Seasonal Silver has always made it part of its format to include something concerning AIDS in its pages--if just to always make mention of AID Atlanta, its address and encouragement to give in some manner. Seasonal Silver will always encourage folks to get involved in the fight.



The esoteric/mystical community ought also be getting involved in other ways. We are greatly pleased with the proposal brought forth by the Grove of the Unicorn in Atlanta, for they now include sending out healing energy for AIDS and the research in their new moon rituals. We want to encourage all groups to do the same with the idea of promoting a cohesive sending at approximately the same time.

There has been a symbol (mandala) brought forth that looks like a six-petaled flower--white petals with a yellow center. This might also be seen as an atom with white electrons/neutrons going around a yellow atom. The smell of gardenias is also associated with this and could be used as the incense.

If one would like to know more about 'how' the Grove of the Unicorn is sending this energy and their approach to this in their ritual, please contact them at P. O. Box 13384, Atlanta, Georgia, 30324.

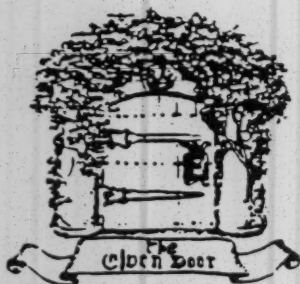
In fact, we heavily encourage any and all to do so.

One last thing. It is being understood that the souls now on the inner planes are deeply concerned with this issue as well. There is a guarantee that any and all prayers, rituals, etc., will be met by them. AIDS is deeply affecting the astral realms as well and it is hoped with conscious help on both sides of the veil, we may finally see an end to this paralyzing crisis.

Listen folks, this is the sort of thing we're supposed to be trained for! Let's do something about it.

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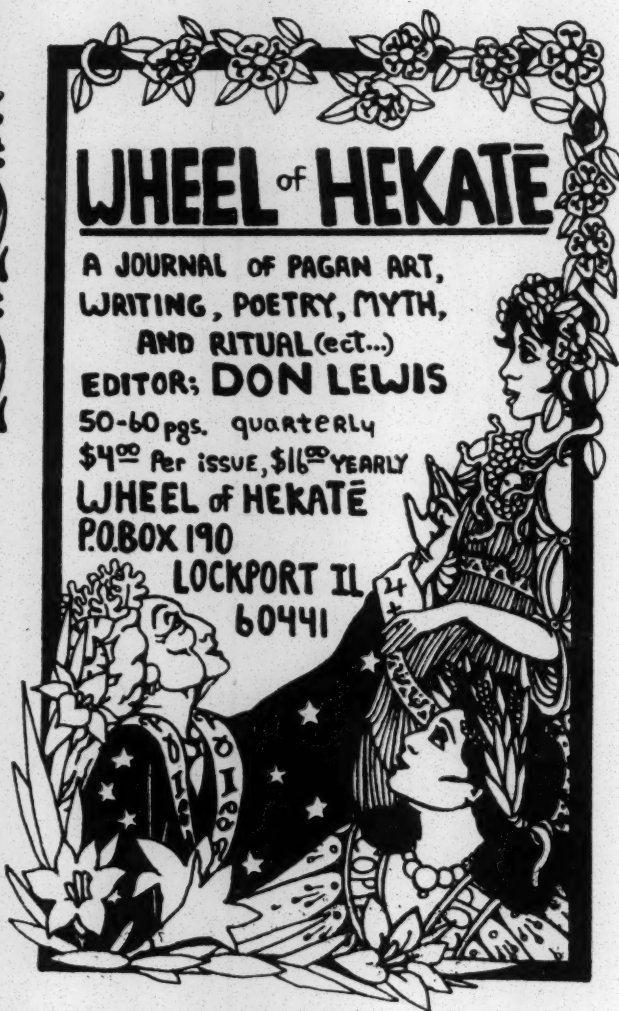
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Due to some peculiar circumstances, I've been made aware
that I am considered to be part of the Church of Y
Tylwythy Teg.

I wish to formally dispel this confusion by officially
letting it be known

That: I am not, nor have been, nor at any time in
the future intend to be, part of the Church of Y
Tylwythy Teg (International or otherwise).

That: My understanding of Wicca and Bardary are
totally different and separate from theirs.

And That: though I wish the Church no harm, I am
deeply proud of my own background and learning; and
therefore greatly angered that any connection should
have been made.

May the Gods rest this issue here and forthwith.

Spirit & Mass of TAROT

by Gypsy St*r

Living in a universe based on opposites (negative & positive) it is not surprising that this law of physics also applies to that of the Tarot. Especially that of the Major Arcana. As you understand the full definition of these 22 cards, then laying them out in the manner indicated below, you can well see how each card has a corresponding card which gives both a negative and positive aspect.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1) Magician | - | The Fool (0) |
| 2) High Priestess | - | World (21) |
| 3) Empress | - | Judgment (20) |
| 4) Emperor | - | Sun (19) |
| 5) Chariot* | - | Moon (18) |
| 6) Lovers | - | Star (17) |
| 7) Hierophant* | - | Tower (16) |
| 8) Strength | - | Devil (15) |
| 9) Hermit | - | Temperance (14) |
| 10) Wheel of Fortune | - | Death (13) |
| 11) Justice | - | Hanged Man (12) |

Years ago a Temple in Egypt was discovered which was used by the High Priest for the initiation of their neophyte. In a long hall were rows of columns to the right and left. Between these columns stood the images of the above Tarot cards and it was part of the initiation for the neophyte to identify each of them. However more important was his task to relate these images to one another as they stood opposite one another per negative and positive influences.

Although some of our printed decks change the position of the number 5 & 7 cards as pointed out above with *, you will find that the Rider Waite deck does conform to the images as set in the Egyptian Temple.

Masters of the past such as St. Martin, Eliphas Levi, Dr. Papus, etc., recognized this opposite factor of the Major Arcana and discovered that this was in fact the 'Key' to the true interpretation of the cards. From this understanding they were more fully to understand the divinatory meanings of the Minor Arcana and respect the fact that

each suit corresponded with that of Fire, Water, Air, and Earth. Then from this principle they in turn were able to discover that these natural elements of universe and man were further applied to the name of God - I.H.V.H..

Madame Blavatsky searched persistently for a long time of the true concept of the Tarot and eventually discovered that this deck of mystical cards was in fact the summary of the Hermetic Sciences--the Kabbala, Alchemy, Astrology, Magic, etc., with their different divisions. All these sciences, attributed to Hermes Trismegistus, really represent one system of a very broad and deep psychological investigation of the nature of man in his relation to the world of noumena (God, the world of Spirit) and to the world of phenomena (the visible, physical world).

As I had indicated in prior articles, the Tarot is the Book of Life, however it is a book of highly scientific knowledge per the beginning and ending of mankind and the universe. Should you note the position of the Major Arcana as placed within the Egyptian Temple you will see that as this may reflect the positives and negatives of the universe and the journey of the Fool, it also represents Alpha and Omega. Blessed Be!

* * * * *



"But, How can you tell
I haven't been exorcising daily?"

Rev. Paul Beyerl
(Syndicated 18 iii 1987)

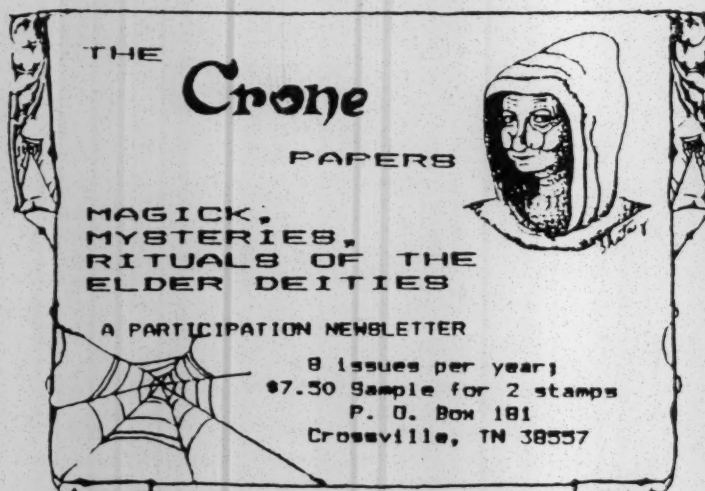
DEATH & DYING

What will happen to you when you die? In most states, you are likely to undergo a Christian burial. I have seen this take place numerous times in recent years, yet when booking speaking engagements my requests to address issues of death and dying are generally met with dismay at such a "morose and depressing" topic. Now really! Such an attitude reminds me too much of the reasons I left my childhood religion behind me. My religion of Wicca sees death as the counterpart to birth each intrinsically linked in the beautiful and sensual Circle of Life. To consider death a topic inappropriate for Pagan Festivals is akin to slandering the Crone.

Neo-Paganism is very young and a major focus of my priesthood is to do my part to wake up these young communities. These are the years we must do whatever legal work is necessary, whatever religious work is essential, and whatever work must be done to change our attitudes towards death. Death was considered a momentous adventure in most ancient mystery religions. The same should hold true today.

Wiccan beliefs often include reincarnation and the ability to reclaim our athames, Books of Shadows, and the like. This certainly is not going to happen if nothing has been done to assure that your group (Church?) has the necessary provisions to do such work. What can be done? Make certain you have a ceremony appropriate for that initiatory occasions. It would be wise to do the paperwork to be legally incorporated as a Church. (Simple non-profit status is very easy.) Consider having a will which guarantees that your Pagan religion is something which you will take with you at death. Do you really wish to be buried according to the rites of your parents? You would be shocked to discover that the laws of many states turn your body over to "next-of-kin" and I have even seen Pagan spouses, when beset with grief, allow the Christian families make all religious arrangements.

If you are ready to embrace death in a joyful way, it will not be necessary for the Crone to fight with you when the time has come. After all, She alone is the One best suited to teach you the best parts which lead to Birth.



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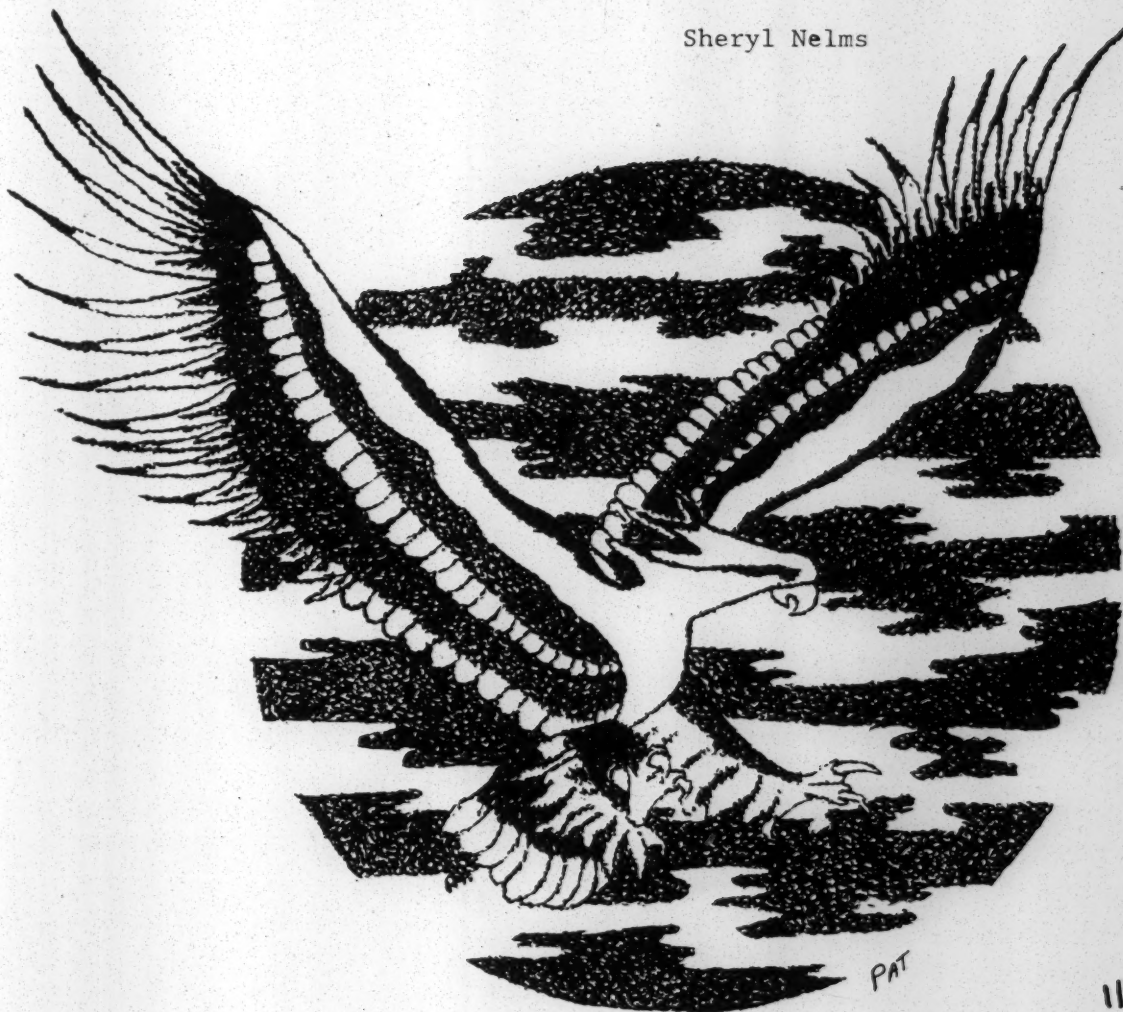
hunting pheasants

it's there
in the farm country
of eastern South Dakota
that dry cornfield smell
as I push between the stalks
the crunch of shucks
under my boots

the scrape of my gloves
through clusters
of cockleburrs
the skitter
of pheasants scattering
ahead
the heavy flump
as they jump

five hens
and a rooster
gliding low across
the gravel road
into forever

Sheryl Nelms

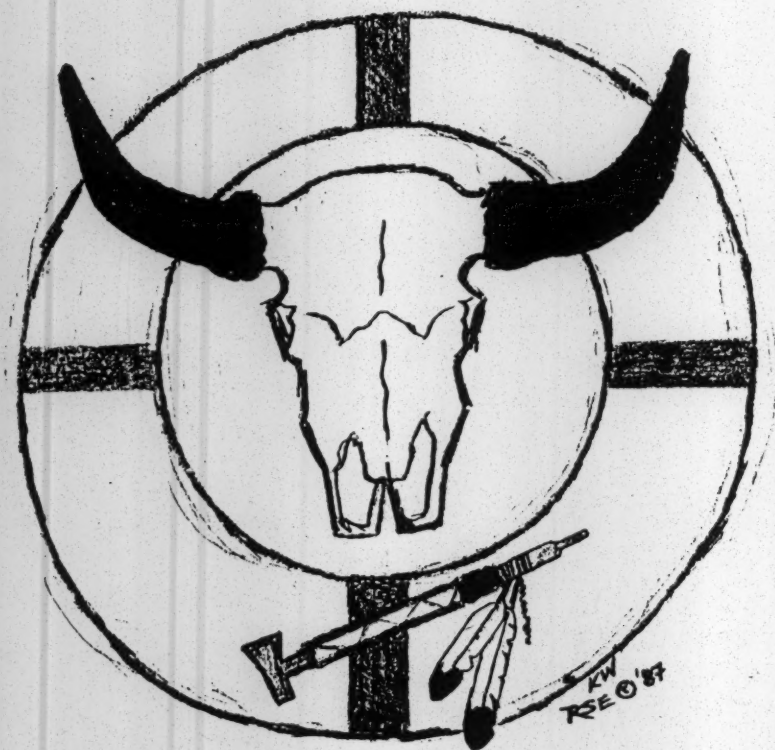


American Indian Mythology ❄

Goddesses and Heroines - II

By: *PAT*

APASINASSE. Once, the Eskimos of Hudson Bay say, there was a haughty young woman who refused all the men in her village; she did not want to marry, but stayed instead in her parents' home. One day, her father angrily suggested that, considering her behavior, the family dog was the proper mate for her. The next day the dog disappeared, and a beautiful young man dressed in dog-skin clothing arrived at the hut, ate sitting next to the girl, and then slept with her. They stayed together until the young woman gave birth to a litter of puppies. Her children were so noisy that Apasinasee's father put the whole lot, with the dog and his wife, into a boat that carried them across the river to live. Apasinasse's father continued to provide for them however--he sent meat to the family every day tying it around the dog's neck. Eventually tiring of this, he tied rocks around the dog's neck one day and in its trip across the river, it drowned. Apasinasse instructed her children to eat her father and they did. Then Apasinasee was utterly without support. So she mournfully sent her children away to forage for themselves. One group traveled far inland where they became giants; another, living on the coast, became walrus-eating dwarfs. A few she put into a magical ship, and they disappeared entirely. A very few stayed beside their mother--and they become the Eskimo people.





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HECATE

by Aridiana

MATRON of the Mediterranean--feared, respected, revered
MATRIARCH of the Celts--warrior, leader, fearless, free
ELDER of the Africans--learned, intuitive, reflective
GRANDMOTHER of the Amerinds--guiding, protecting, teaching
VENERABLE of the Orientals--soothing, healing, harmonizing

Old Woman, Wise Woman, Crone.

I have scanned horizons invoking, beseeching You in old women
muttering on park benches; strolling with children thru
shopping malls, waiting for buses on street corners,
counting pennies at the grocery, living out of plastic
bags--tired, halt, lame, fearful of the noisy world.

I have searched and found myself not only Motherless but
Grandmotherless--a greater loss.

Where are You, Old Woman, Wise Woman, Crone?

Once You were the Root of the Race--the depository, the
Source of family/tribal lore, of understanding gleaned from
years of birth and death, of love ever soothing and
caressing, of justice strict yet fair, of secrets dark and
secure,

of teachings lost in time

between moonlight and shadow--burned

to ashes with You in a Holocaust to an old God with a new Name.
Sometimes I think I see Your eyes in those old womens' eyes
shimmering with past but not lost youth; longing still with
the passion of life yet stilling the passion for Wisdom.

From You, we, the Wicce--

Your children, receive that which must be
achieved before the Power is placed in our hands.

Old Woman, Wise Woman, Crone.

I venerate Your sunken mouth from which Wisdom falls as once
did Your teeth; I adore Your hooked nose which can smell the
herb that brings healing; I sanctify Your calloused hands
twisted from arthritis and nursing Life's Wounds.

Soul Healer--Teacher--Old One, Wise One, Crone

Those who are ignorant may despise Your Black Cat and Broom
of Cleansing; they may call You Hag and Harpy, but Lady,
Your crooked body with its sagging muscles and wrinkle-
scarred face is no horror to me to be ridiculed on Your
Hallowed Eve.

You are Eternity.

You are the Gateway to Life and Death and That Which is Beyond.

You are the Teachings--You are the Power.

You are the Law--Spirit and Word.

You are the Root of us, Grandmother Whitehaired.

Old Woman, Wise Woman, Crone.

Where are You?

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OUR LADY OF LIFE--OUR LORD OF DEATH by Donna Lyon Rhose

Our Lady, The Goddess of Life, knew all things of Life. In the morning, the Sun greeted Her warmly; and at night, the Moon and Stars sang Her gently to sleep. She kept the name of all things engraved in Her Heart--each plant, each animal, each bird, each stone, each drop of water, each grain of sand upon the beach. And each night, She named them one by one, joying in their Life which it had pleased Her to give them. And She taught them many songs, many joys, many dances. She showed them that Life was a happy thing, Life was full of wonder, Life was full of joy. And they were as precious as jewels to Her.

Yet, one evening, as She called out each name of all the wonderful things She had given Life, She found that not all of Her creations would answer Her. So, She wandered far and wide to find them, but She could not. She climbed through many mountains, but She could not find them; She searched the valleys and the waters, but found them not. And, as She gazed at all the beautiful things She had given Life, She also noticed that some of them were fading. And she began to realize that they were growing old. So, She went down by the waters and wept, for now She knew that the beautiful things She had called but would not answer, had died. And, crying, She fell to sleep, dreaming many strange dreams. In the morning, Our Lady of Life, knew She wished to know everything; for though She knew everything of Life, Death was a mystery to Her and She must seek Him out so that She may know everything in Life and Death.

And the road was long, and the road was frightening for strange and darksome beings watched Her as She went. But Her resolve was strong, Her need to know a hunger in Her, Her need to know an unbearable thirst. In Time, the Portals of Death stood high and dark at the end of the road. And, as She approached, a Great Being as tall as the Portals themselves, came and stood to block Her Way. "I am the Goddess of Life," She said, "and I would know All Things even unto the realms of Death."

"Indeed, Your knowledge is great, My Lady, but I may not let You pass." "What must I do that you would let me?" "You must abandon the vestiges of Life." And, She took off Her beautiful jewels that held the glory of the Sun and Moon and Stars. "You must abandon the manifestations of Life." And, She took off her beautiful clothes that held the glory of the plants and animals, and soft brown earth. "You must abandon all hope that is the Joy of Life." And, She took off Her silvery Web-spun veil that held all the glory of Her creations. And, She was naked to the Realms of Death, Her Soul was barren to the Portals of Death, Her Spirit was split open to the Gates of Death. The Guardian of the Portals let Her pass; The Guardian of the Portals guided Her through Death's realms, the Guardian of the Portals took Her to the very Chamber of Death Himself. And, She was left alone before Death, before His Glory, before His Light, Before His frightening Wisdom. Yet, She feared Him

not and gazed with stoic eyes. She stepped even to the foot of His throne; She gestured with Her long, glimmering arms, and She said, "I give the Joy of Life to all of My Creation. Yet, you make all I've done come to fade and die. Why do You bring this sadness to all I love?" The God raised His eyes and saw Our Lady, He saw Her wonderous beauty, He saw the tear in Her eye for the loss of the things that She loved. And, The sight of Her caused something strange in Him, Her words caused a melting in Him, Her tear caused His heart to become warm where once it had been cold. "The Ways of the Underworld are perfect. Why do You question me?" Yet, though His voice was stern, there was a great rejoicing in His Soul. "The Ways of Life are perfect," She replied, "why do you take those things away from me?" "I give rest and repose; for things at last grow weary. Here they may grow strong again; so, again they may be young. For, You ever call them back to Life... I too, give them wonder... But, I have been alone and my heart has grown cold. You, alone, give Me joy. You are beautiful. Do not return, abide with Me." Our Lady looked at Death in amazement, "I love You not." "My Ways are gentle sleep, peaceful rest. Do not return to Life, for I love you. Abide with Me." "I love You not." And, Our Lady looked nearly as stern as He. "I give youth where old age reigned. Do not return, abide with Me." "I love You not." Our Lady's mind was closed to Death's entreaties. Sorrow overshadowed Him as He spoke, "Then, You must suffer the Fate of Death." "Better to suffer the Fate of Death which is the fate of All Living things than to forever remain here with You." "By Your words, it shall be so. So be it ardane."

And with that, the Lord Death brought down the Fate of Death He put upon Our Lady the Destiny of All Living Things. He brought down upon Her the knowledge She had sought. And, Her eyes were opened--Our Lady looked up at the Lord with new eyes; She saw Him for what He really was. No longer was Death a sadness, but rather peace, rest, rejuvenation. Our Lady went up to the Lord and sat down by His side. She took His hand; She received His Love. And, The Goddess of Life became also the Goddess of Death. The God of Death became also the God of Life. Together They became Our Lord and Lady of Life, Death, and Rebirth. And ever do They rule, in Perfect Balance, in Perfect Love, in Perfect Trust. For They are One, and They are One in us all.

Blessed Be.

H*E*Y !!! *☆*

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SHADOWBOOK REVIEW by Gil Wyndel

The Wheels of Life
Llewellyn Press

This book demystifies much about the basis of the great Eastern systems of India. Step-by-step, she builds us their tree (the chakra system), how it functions, and why--what Yoga really does, what chants actually activate, and how Tantra should really be utilized. And so clear! She makes easy sense out of what has been obscure to me, to a point where it suddenly seems obvious, and I wonder why it could have ever seemed obscure. The only thing I hate to say is that I wish she'd tell more, get even deeper and help me truly dig into the soul of India which is also, of course, as all trees, the Soul of Humanity. But for now, I guess I ought remain silent, for the book is at present a huge effort and there is much to be garnered from this work. She has honestly made the way so clear, you will wonder why you ever had any problems with this Eastern system.

Highly recommended. If you wish to truly understand what the chakra system is--this is The book!!

The Magical Household by Scott Cunningham and David Harrington
Llewellyn's Practical Magick Series

Review by Donna Lyon Rhose

The most interesting point of this book is the many, many tidbits of information from diverse sources. It ranges from pure superstition to highly useful ideas in the creation of a psychically healthy house and home. It is both amusing and thought provoking and I would have to leave the reader to decide what she/he felt was useful or not. It is obvious this book took a great deal of time to put together for there are so many bits and pieces, variant beliefs, and superstitions. It is a book one can pick up and put down easily or start at any point depending on interest. If one wants to see ideas for the garden, turn to that section; about familiars, turn to that. If you're looking for a book that's both entertaining and often very useful, do get this book. It'll make your house happy too--and we all want happy homes!

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Astrology

The Oldest Science--VI
Lew Paxton Price (c) 1982

During the Chaldean Renaissance, the rulers of Babylon first subjugated the surrounding peoples which included the destruction of Jerusalem and the deportation of thousands of Jews. This was more fuel for the fire of Israel's bitterness toward Babylon and all things Babylonian. Later Babylonians failed to hold the lands they had conquered, and there was no national monarchy and no superior Babylonian rulership to insure the strength and knowledge of the buffer areas between Babylon and her enemies.

The neglect of proper ruling in the buffer areas and the decline of the military may have been in part due to the rampant inflation and high interest rates that ravaged the common people and the government. Taxes were increased only to further damage the falling economy. The result was the fall of Babylon when Cyrus the Great of Persia pushed upon the tottering giant that was already collapsing under her own weight. Today, we see our own nation beginning to reel under the same type of disease--the result of many years of mismanagement and increasing government bureaucracy.

Under Persian rule, Babylonia and Assyria were taxed until the standard of living was set back several hundred years. Banks and loan institutions profited and government bureaucracies grew, but the common folk, who are the real source of a nation's wealth, were reduced from the middle class to a class of serfs barely able to survive. The Persians forbade the worship of the Babylonian deities and Aramaic replaced Babylonian as the common language. The old Sumerian knowledge was to go underground for many years to come.

When Alexander the Great took Babylon from the Persians in the 4th Century BCE, he attempted to take the secrets of science from the priests to enrich his new library at Alexandria. He partly succeeded. However, subsequent burnings of the library in Alexandria by misguided Christians and military conquerors left little of the original knowledge for us to study.

In the ancient Sumerian cities, the study and practice of astrology was kept alive during the Seleucid period after Alexander's death. It was from these sources as well as from Babylon in the time of Pythagoras that most of the knowledge found in Greek astrology was obtained. It was passed to the declining world by the Greeks who were succeeded by the Romans, who were, in time, succeeded by the Byzantines. As the Catholic Church came to the fore in the wars between Christian faiths, the old knowledge was further distorted but still used to some advantage.

It was not until the 1600s that the Catholic Church began to purposely ignore astrology as an unforeseen result of the work of two astrologers called Copernicus and Galileo. Until that time, it was an accepted part of theology if not science.



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Replacing the velvet bowl
of black night sky
East-burning a red-glowing
above a clear blue, tall and high
The dark night of pain is leaving
Comes now the light of love and day
Time turns again and simply is.
Incandescent shines still the Way.

by White Deer Woman





As the Cauldron Bubbles

by Aridiana

Xandarza was promenading her battlements. Suddenly a Bard appeared (from seemingly out of nowhere--as they are oft want to do--and then make people talk funny when they're around).

"Gadzooks!" said Xandarza, "Ye startled me! What is thy name and why are ye here?" (Bards do have way of making people talk funny.)

"Me name is James Bard (known also as 006-and-3/4s in some Circles), and I be searching for the Necronomicon. Have ye seen it lately?" (Bards are not immune to their own influence.)

"The Necronomicon? Which one?"

Aye, Madam, that is me problem. There are at least four and I must find the Right One or alas, nere shall I be 007 (a highly spiritual number ye ken). I simply cannot remain 006-and-3/4s fore'er. Do ye think ye can help me?"

"Methinks mayhaps I can," murmured Xandarza thoughtfully.



- * Will Xandarza tell the Bard that mayhaps in today's New Age he should stop talking so funny?
- ** Will Xandarza be able to find the Right Necronomicon (the last time she had the Right One--she used it to prop open the door of Dannyn the Dragon's Magickal Pufflair--as it seemed only useful for that at the time)?
- *** Why is Zelag changing her name to Z. R.? Does she want a spin-off from As the Cauldron Bubbles or is she trying to start a Dynasty with all the little homunculi that she's been whipping up?

For Answers to these Questions or others, read the next Seasonal Silver.

One Final Note:

I do not believe in warlocking. I feel it is fine to warn about others if it is necessary, but excommunication is not within our human capabilities--our personal judgement can prove wrong and sometimes disasterously so (Karmically for ourselves and/or others). We are not Gods and only the Gods have a right to say to whom they will speak and whose prayers/spells they will answer.

AE



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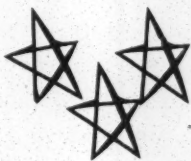
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